

"School for Judges" (cont)

by their own scores the weaknesses in their evaluations of slides. They will have an opportunity to improve themselves, and, most important, gain experience. Many have felt they could do a good job of judging, given a chance. Well, this is it ... if you want to try your hand.

IT is not the intention to lay down rigid rules for judging, but rather to develop an appreciation for the elements that make a slide effective, and to provide a forum where individual ideas may freely be expressed .. be they good or bad. Such penalties as may be imposed based upon a defective opinion will not reflect upon the slide maker, as there will always be a weighted affirmative opinion within the majority of the panel.

JUDGES hear many dissenting opinions sotto voce, behind them, and it is seldom that a competition is held where unanimous support of the accepted slides is the rule. This is opinion at work, the birthright of each of us, but it works both ways. A good judge

is one who has proven his capabilities of recognizing and expressing the majority opinion and reaction to a slide, and who allows himself a freedom from bias, to understand the maker's effort and give it all the credit it is due.

HOWEVER this program is supported, if MSC develops a handful of really good judges, it will have contributed heavily towards better appreciation of stereo ... and better stereo.

WANTED: About 60 more members to complete the initial membership of MSC. How do you qualify? If you are interested in stereo, you are welcome to be our guest at a meeting, where you will have a chance to get acquainted with us. Application for membership is filled out, together with a little historical data about yourself and your interests and talents. The Membership Committee will report at the next meeting on your application. Dues are \$10 per year, \$15 joint membership, which entitles you to attend all meetings, classes, competitions to the bulletin and to a chance to contribute your talents to the club. Both advanced workers and beginners are welcome. Our Membership Chairman is Charlie Maciejak, who will have applications. See him or write him for one.

metropolitan STEREO CLUB NEWS

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METROPOLITAN
STEREO CLUB
115 East 40th Street
New York City



MEETINGS
Second Friday of Every
Month
7:30 PM. SHARP

School For Judges

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MANY of our members have expressed an interest in "how you learn to be a judge". So our "School for Judges" was born. It is open to all members who want to know what makes slides good - not only to evaluate their own work better, but to help others improve their efforts. The "School for Judges" will be a regular constructive and instructive part of each competition night.

IT is commonly thought that "judges" are born not made. And it is probably true that not everyone would make a good, sound judge ... yet how are we to know until we try? Many who could do service to others on a panel seldom have a chance to be "discovered".

IN Principle, from those enrolled, a different panel will be assigned to judge each of the bi-monthly competitions. This panel will include at least one experienced judge (although not necessarily experienced in stereo judging), with an alternate to be seated in the event of the absence of one of the assigned judges. The moderator for the December meeting will be Bart

Brooks, who has judged the PSA National and the Rochester International Stereo Salons, among others.

THE rules of judging will be those in use in PSA salons. The scoring of each judge on slide will be tabulated and weighed against the average of the entire panel. In a sense, this is a competition within a competition - among the judges - not against each other, but against "Old Man Par", in this case, the optimum evaluation of a slide by the panel as a whole.

THE judges will sit at the proper viewing distance from the screen, will score each slide on composition, interest and technique, allowing up to 3 points for each part, a maximum possible award for each slide of 9 points. 25% of the total slides submitted will be "accepted". The rest are "outs". From the group of "acceptances", the judges will select a 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention, which will be awarded ribbons.

MSC's "School for Judges" is based upon the sound principle of water seeking its own level. Within the planned structure, the less competent judges will discover

THANK YOU, N.Y. TIMES

AND, especially to Jack Deschin, that friend to photography, and a guy with an open mind. MSC appreciates the fine stories in "Along Camera Row", given to our first painful efforts a-bornin'. We look forward to having Jack with us as often as he can come to our meetings. It's a real tribute that with such a busy schedule he puts us on his visiting list, and tells the world at large of our interest in stereo.

DESIGN

WE need a name for our monthly bulletin, and a design for its masthead. That's another way of saying we want ideas. Sketch up your thoughts (and you don't have to be an artist) and turn them in to our Hospitality Chairman, Bulda Yerkes, at the next meeting. Let's make a contest of it. The best ideas will be published in the January bulletin for consideration and voted on at the January meeting. The best prize we can offer the winner is public acclaim of "genius-in-our-midst". ... or drop the ideas in the mail to Mrs. John Yerkes, 790 Riverside Drive, New York City.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO CHARTER MEMBERS

IT is expected that the December meeting will be the last opportunity to sign as Charter members. Please be sure to see Jean Brooks and sign the Charter, if you haven't already done so. Newcomers who are considering becoming MSC members are urged to sign up December 9th.

PETE LEWIS, our Treasurer, has his warm hand extended, but he's human, too - in case you find it inconvenient to pay your dues all at once, we hear he has an "easy pay" plan for the right members.

"EVERY MEMBER BRING A MEMBER
.... BUT THE RIGHT MEMBER"

HOUSING ACT

Hats off to Walter Feinman, our House Chairman, for getting us located in such fine quarters in such a short time. Without exception, everyone enthusiastically endorsed the Architectural League as just about right for our varied requirements. Did you notice Walter's committee in action when it came to rearranging chairs, setting up equipment, and, most important, at the tail end of things, helping to pack it up and get it out of the building? THANKS, Walter.

COMPETITION HANDICAP PLAN

ALL too frequently camera club members come regularly to competition nights --- without slides. You don't have to look too far to find the reason. It can be summed up usually as "what's the use", "they're too good for me", etc.

WELL, that's just not the right way to enjoy your club. And it's true that novice and oldtimer alike are sometimes shy and reluctant to expose themselves to criticism. Professionals, too, suffer from the same malady: they don't like to be shown up by amateurs, as so often happens.

COMPETITION isn't everything, but it is a stimulant to endeavor, and competition must be fair and open to all on equal terms. So that all MSCers will be able to enjoy the fun, the Competition Handicap Plan must be set up without loss of time.

THIS first competition on December 9th, as well as subsequent bi-monthly competitions will serve as a means of handicapping members into "A" and "B" groups, in order to make individual competition more equal. After the December

competition, "A" members will compete only against "A" members, and "B" members against "B" members for group standings. The finalists, i.e. "acceptances" in each group, will be judged together for the awards.

THE total score of the first four slides submitted by a member will place him automatically in "A" or "B" group. Upon a certain number of acceptances in "B" group, a member will automatically progress to "A" group.

THE maker will receive 5 points credit for a 1st, 4 points for a 2nd, 3 points for a 3rd, 2 points for an Honorable Mention, and 1 each for "acceptances". The total score of each member will be recorded by the Competitions Committee to establish a "Who's Who in MSC". We may look forward to a suitable trophy at the end of each season to go to our top competitor.

YOUR hat's in the ring, and the way to enjoy the club is to take part in it; get into the spirit of competition if you really want to improve your skill with your camera. MSC looks forward to developing a national reputation in the salons. Let's all have 4 slides in the Dec. 9th competition.

NOVEMBER IN REVIEW

OUR first formal meeting, at the Architectural League, 115 E. 40th St., proved a resounding success for MSC. A quick house count showed 67, and, what is sweeter music, six new Charter members - paid up, too. Considering the fast pace at which things have happened since our first get-together at Lisa (what a hostess) Obert's, this is truly progress. There is still much organizational work to be ironed out before all our various committees - and others to be formed - can really get into their stride. We want to accomplish the club's purposes with a minimum of general "business", and it will be the satisfaction of all of us that we have an active part to play in the success of our club.

THE star of the November meeting was certainly Fred Kroy, who served as model extraordinary for a lighting demonstration of stereo portraiture. Marvin was on the camera. The demonstration itself was a once-over-lightly by Bart Brooks on high spots of taking portraits in stereo. This was intended as an

introduction to lighting for stereo in general, and more specific demonstrations of stereo and lighting are planned to cover the many facets of this important element in making better pictures, by members specializing in the various types of subject matter and their special handling.

A second feature was a credit to the group of workers that gathered at Lisa (bless-her-happy-home) Obert's on a very serious project a few days before the meeting. The Rocky Mountain Stereo Club had prepared a series of 150 slides with a sound-on-tape narration for distribution to stereo clubs throughout the country, showing the beauties of the country around Denver, where the 1956 PSA convention is to be held. MSC members who previewed the show at the Boston PSA Convention were unanimous in their opinion that, as a show, it was too long, and too slow-moving to do justice to the very excellent material it contained. The question was: could we, as a work-group, do any better in editing the same material, from the viewpoint of an average club outside the Denver area who would view the show?

SO the work group met and re-edited the slides, boiling the show down to a fast-moving 20 minutes from the 55-minute original form. It was their intention to prepare a new tape as well, but time did not stretch to allow that. The results, without sound, were unquestionably a far superior presentation of the material. This was most evident to those who had seen the show previously, and to the work group. The narration, from information contained on the Rocky Mountain Club's tape, was read in the dark by Jean Brooks, aided in time of need by the old lamplighter John Yerkes. The lack of musical background and suitable amplification equipment for a finished show caused those who worked on the project to realize and appreciate even more the tremendous amount of hard work put into the show by the Rocky Mountain Stereo Club. A great deal of credit is due that club; their show is the first project of its kind that we know of done by any stereo club.

CIRCULATION this issue MSC News, 300 copies, including one extra copy for each member. Make sure it reaches a prospective member.

RE-SCHEDULED

OUR "Colonel", Lou Frohman, has a professional assignment December 9th, when he was scheduled to give a demonstration of his comparative tests on Anscochrome and Kodachrome films for stereo. Also he was to demonstrate the versatility of the new Realist wide-angle attachment, both indoors and out.

ALL this we'll have to forego until the January meeting, where Ronnie Jenkins has it at the top of his list for that program.

.... and speaking of Ronnie's programs, a glance over his shoulder hints at a most exciting series of instructive and entertaining features on the schedule for coming months.

*DINNER DATE

FOR any who have not discovered it, the bar is open till 7 o'clock. Walter says the President Restaurant around the corner on Lexington seems to be the "pre-meeting meeting place". See you there on December 9th.

December 9TH PROGRAM

Program Director: Ronnie Jenkins

I 7:30 "HOW TO MOUNT STEREO SLIDES" by John Yerkes

This is the first scheduled classroom subject on a most important topic to every member of the club, and to all those interested in stereo. It is essential that we understand how to mount slides for projection, a necessary "do-it-yourself" job to get the best from our stereo cameras. John is well-qualified to make this subject, a bugaboo to so many, a standard technique to add to our skills. At this session you'll learn the reasons for proper mounting of slides - and how to do it.

II 8:15 BUSINESS MEETING

A brief session to close charter membership rolls, and attend to other items of interest.

III 8:25 "TEN SLIDES FROM TEN MEMBERS"

The first of this series, in which each of ten assigned members submits one slide for open criticism. The maker will explain how he made the picture, why he made it, and how he would do it differently if he could do it again, for almost every picture could be improved on a second try.

- INTERMISSION -

IV 8:55 DECEMBER SLIDE COMPETITION

OPEN ONLY TO MEMBERS FOR COMPETITION, but our guests are welcome to enjoy and learn. The first of our bi-monthly competitions for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention Ribbons. 4 slides from each member, mounted in glass. Competition will be judged by the first session of MSC's "School for Judges". Panel this month: DON BENNETT, RONNIE JENKINS, CHARLES MACIEJAK, KEN TYDINGS, with John Yerkes as alternate. (More about "School for Judges" elsewhere in "Metropolitan Stereo Club News".